Pneumonic Plague Live Read scripts

Long Version

Please pay close attention; this is important safety information about the recent event involving pneumonic (noo-mon'-ik) plague. The following information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will help protect you and your loved ones.

Pneumonic plague is caused by bacteria, or germs, that are breathed into the lungs. It can spread from person to person after close contact. IF caught early, it *is* treatable. Receiving treatment with the *right* antibiotics or medicine preferably within 24 hours of developing symptoms greatly increases your chance of survival. State and Local health officials have an appropriate supply of these medicines.

For anyone in the area of the outbreak:

There are two ways to be exposed to pneumonic plague, 1) by breathing it into your lungs at or near the point of dispersal or 2) by close contact with a sick person or animal (within 6 feet). If you believe you have been exposed to plague seek medical care at a plague treatment center designated by local health officials right away. Public health officials will ensure that you receive the treatment that you need and will tell you what to do next.

Symptoms of pneumonic plague to look for in yourself or loved ones are: fever, headache, weakness, muscle aches, chills, shortness of breath, and a cough. Some people may cough up blood, feel sick to the stomach, throw up, or have stomach pains. Most people develop symptoms within 1 to 4 days after exposure, but it may take as long as 6 days for symptoms to appear. Anyone with symptoms of the flu or pneumonic plague should seek medical care right away...even if you are not sure that you've been exposed.

Dogs typically do not get sick from or spread plague. However, rodents, rabbits and domestic cats can be especially susceptible to plague. Keep pets indoors during this outbreak and avoid contact with rodents. If your pets show signs of illness, such as fever, being tired or not eating, avoid close contact and call your veterinarian immediately.

You can prevent being exposed to pneumonic plague by staying away from the area where the germs were dispersed and by staying away from people and pets who are sick with flu-like symptoms. If you and your loved ones have not been directly exposed to plague germs stay put and monitor yourself and your loved ones for symptoms and follow the instructions given by public health authorities.

For everyone in the listening area:

Law enforcement and public health officials are working together to contain the outbreak and to determine the source of the attack. You can keep your family and community safe by following important instructions given to you by public health and law enforcement authorities. Please continue to listen to radio and television stations for updates and for information on where you can find a plague treatment or drug distribution centers in your area.

For more detailed information on pneumonic plague go to the CDC website: www.cdc.gov or call 1-800-CDCINFO.

Short Version

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Anyone with symptoms of plague should seek medical care right away...even if you are not sure that you've been exposed.

Receiving treatment with the *right* antibiotics or medicine preferably within 24 hours of developing symptoms of plague greatly increases your chance of survival.

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